

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Research - 7

Subject Commerce & Industry, Lumber.

Date 12/20/40

Research Worker S.G. Smith

Date Research Taken 12/18 & 19 /40

Typist S.G. Smith

Date Typed 12/20/40

Source Robert L Puffenbarger, Marlinton, W. Va.

John, Jay & William Buckley,
Buckeye, W. Va.

Date Filed

Dec. 23, 1940

In 1901 Lehman Young then of near Warm Springs Virginia came to Pocahontas County and brought with him his circular saw mill and to saw for any one wanting sawing done and his first operation was for Tillison and Jasper Auldridge of Buckeye, on Swago Creek this took place in 1901. During this time and prior to this time there were ~~se~~ numerous operations on the Greenbrier River also on Knapps Creek and all above Buckeye as the logs were cut all along up the river some were near the river others when cut fell in the river and so when high water came they would drift down the river to the mouth of Swago Creek and there lodge in a rackheap and had accumulated ~~se~~ many thousand feet of logs, also timber cut from the C. & O right-away drifted to this turn in the river and were forced out in the rackheap, so all they had to do was to take a team and skid the logs to the mill a short distance away this was the main part of this operation but from 75 to ⁵⁰ 100 thousand was cut from the Auldridge farm besides the logs that had drifted in from up the river .

This was a small operation therefore but few men were used so when it finished up in 01, it went out unnoticed. They cut something like 150,000 feet at this operation and moved the mill on up the Greenbrier River where it burned up. Most of the lumber cut at this set was sold locally.

Information. Robert L Puffenbarger. Marlinton, W, Va.

John B Buckley	Buckeye, W. Va.
Jay "	" "
William Buckley,	" "

Pocahontas - 7

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry. Lumber
Up & Down Sawmill-
Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Typist Samuel G Smith

Date I/3I/4I

Date Research Taken I/30/4I & before

Date Typed 17 I/3I/4I

Source G. D McNeill, John B Buckley
Miss McKeever, Annie Adkison And Nancy A
McNeill all of Buckeye. W. Va.

Prices History and Court Records
Marlinton. W. Va.

Date Filed _____



Have been working on this report for sometime but was unable to finish until I/3I as this was the final data needed.

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith. Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
Lumber & grist Mill-

John Buckley who was born 1774 and one of the first settlers of Poc.
hontas County having settled on the Greenbrier River near the mouth of Swago
Creek built and operated an Up & Down saw mill near where the creek empties
into the river.

A race was dug from where Walter Grahams filling station now stands
down through the Park McNeill farm across where the old County road now runs
and to the Buckley farm that is now owned by C.A Young this race was dug by
slaves of the Buckleys and the Edmistons from The Little Levels and at that
time living on Locust Creek and no doubt the slaves of James Edmiston.

This mill was built about 1800 by John Buckley the grandfather of
John B Buckley now residing on the old Buckley homestead this mill was op-
erated by the builder John Buckley, then by his son Joshua and in 1862 or 63
Timothy Cloonan bought the farm he operated the mill for a while and in 1867
John W Skiles bought the farm but only kept it until 1869 and sold it to Ev-
alina Amos the wife of Andy Amos and in 1870 Amos repaired the mill and used
it for a while but around 75 to 80 it ceased to operate and this was the la-
st of the Up And Down sawmill, a gristmill was run in connection with this
mill both using the power made by the waterwheel and in 1898 Evalina Amos
who was a sister to M.J McNeel of the Levels sold the farm to Jasper Auldrid-
ge and he sold it to its present owners C.A and Nora Young and today the race
is very plain and you can see where the mill set.

This operation took place at what is known as Buckeye, but back years
ago it was known as Buckeye Cove. W. Va. when this mill was operated by the Bu-
ckleys.

G. D McNeill. Buckeye. W. Va. Prices History. By Andrew Price
Information. John B Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va. Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.
Willis McKeever. Buckeye. W. Va. Annie Adkison & Nancy A McNeill
Buckeye. W. Va.

This mill did custom sawing as well as sawing logs into lumber for the
owner which often was sold to the nearby farmers as lumber was very hard to
get from the first to after the middle of the 18th century.